



# NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture • Rural Development

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Date: January 24, 2006  
Release Number TX 120.06

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## USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT ANNOUNCES FUNDING FOR THROCKMORTON COUNTY

**THROCKMORTON, TEXAS, January 24, 2006**-- Bryan Daniel, USDA Rural Development State Director, today announced that the County of Throckmorton was selected to receive a \$13,124 loan and a \$16,030 grant through the agency's Community Facilities Loan and Grant Program. The effort is part of USDA Rural Development's mission to help rural areas build and enhance essential community facilities.

"USDA Rural Development's Community Facilities Program helps rural communities keep pace with the needs of their rising populations," said Daniel. "Rural residents can utilize our programs to help provide essential public services that will enhance the quality of life for all rural residents."

The grant funds will be used to purchase a 2006 Chevrolet Silverado Short Crew 1500 truck to replace a 2001 truck currently used that has high mileage and requires frequent repairs. The purchase of a new vehicle is necessary to enable the Sheriff's Department to continue providing timely responses to the law enforcement needs of the county. The Department consists of a sheriff, one deputy, and a fill-in deputy/constable who serve 1,850 county residents over 915 square miles of territory.

In Fiscal Year 2005, \$31.8 million in Community Facility direct and guaranteed loans and over \$900,000 in grants were obligated in Texas. Funds are used to enhance the quality of life for residents of rural areas by providing the means for construction, expansion, or enhancement of community facilities, telecommunication and distance education programs, and water and waste disposal systems. These programs are important because they supply a number of growth opportunities to communities with improved utility facilities, increased job availability, and technology and educational resources. Since 2001, USDA Rural Development's Community Programs have awarded \$1.8 billion for these purposes, and touched the lives of more than 1.16 million households in the process.

USDA Rural Development strives to see that rural citizens can participate fully in the global economy by providing technical assistance, funding, and other programs that help rural Americans build strong economies to improve their quality of life. For further information regarding USDA Rural Development Programs, contact the Abilene Local Office at (325) 690-6162, Extension 4, or visit our website at <http://rurdev.usda.gov/tx/>.

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